

# Herbaceous Wind Barriers

## Conservation Practice Job Sheet

**Illinois Job Sheet - 603**

**APRIL 2003**

<b>For:</b>	<b>Farm #:</b>
<b>Field(s):</b>	<b>Tract #:</b>
<b>Designed By:</b>	<b>Approved By:</b>
	<b>Signature:</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>Date:</b>

### Definition

Herbaceous vegetation established in rows or narrow strips across the prevailing wind direction.

### Purposes (check all that apply)

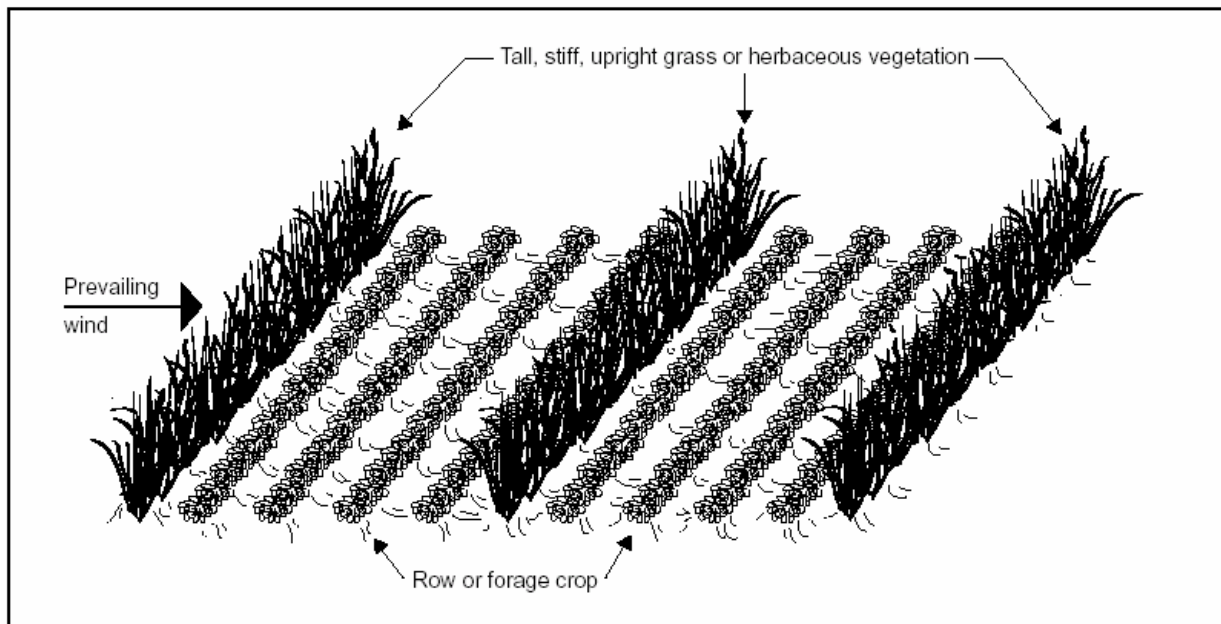
- ☐ Reduce soil erosion from wind.
- ☐ Protect growing crops from damage by wind-borne soil particles.
- ☐ Manage snow to increase plant available moisture.
- ☐ Provide food and cover for wildlife.

### Condition where practice applies

This practice applies to cropland, or other land where crops are grown. This standard includes the location of herbaceous wind barriers and their management for identified uses.



Photo Courtesy of USDA, NRCS



Herbaceous wind barriers reduce wind velocity, which prevents wind erosion, protects crop plants, and influences the deposition of sediment, snow, and other wind-borne material. For optimum effect on wind, the barriers should not be farther apart than 10 to 12 times the height of the barrier vegetation.

#### Specifications

Location & Layout	Strip 1	Strip 2	Strip 3	Strip 4
Cultivated Width (ft)				
Barrier Strip Width (ft)				
Barrier Strip Length (ft)				
Acres in Barrier Strip				

#### Seeding / Establishment Specifications:

Planned Species By Strip Number	Seeding Rate (lbs/ac)	Seeding Date	Lime (tons/ac)	Fertilizer Recommendation
Strips #				
1.				
2.				
3.				
Strips #				
1.				
2.				
3.				

Additional Comments:

**Site Preparation**

Prepare firm seedbed. Apply lime and fertilizer according to recommendations for the planned crop.

**Planting Method(s)**

Drill grass and/or legumes seed \_\_\_\_\_ inches deep uniformly. Establish stand of vegetation according to recommended seeding rate.

If necessary, mulch newly seeded area with \_\_\_\_\_ tons per acre of mulch material. May seed small grain as a companion crop at the rate of \_\_\_\_\_ pounds per acre, but clip or harvest before it heads out.

**Operation and Maintenance**

1. Control weeds.
2. Reestablish barriers as needed to ensure adequate growth before critical wind period. Remove sediment accumulation.
3. Reestablish gaps in barrier row.

Questions concerning the application or maintenance of this practice should be directed to:

Phone

